

Since first I was called to preside over the honorable body, my every aim has been to discharge my duties promptly and impartially. With your generous aid and attention, I have, I trust, succeeded in this, and I am happy to know that my relations have ever been of the kindest character with every Senator upon this floor.

Nothing of a personal nature has ever influenced my conduct as your presiding officer.

My official association with you has been pleasant and instructive, and rest assured Senators, that I shall bear to my home vivid recollections of the many happy days spent in your body, and for the happiness and prosperity of each and every one of you, I shall ever feel a lively interest.

Senators, I bid you adieu.

The President *pro tem* being in the chair, Mr. Hart offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Senate tender their cordial and heartfelt thanks to the Hon. F. R. Lubbock, President of the Senate, for the able and impartial manner in which he has discharged the duties of Presiding officer of this body for the last two years.—Which was unanimously adopted.

The question then being taken on the motion to adjourn, was carried.

WEDNESDAY, December 21st, 1859.

Senate met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by the Chaplain—roll called—quorum present.

The journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

A message was received from the House informing the Senate, that the House had passed a joint resolution, originating in the Senate, instructing our Senators and Representatives in Congress, to use their influence in endeavoring to remove the port of entry from Brazos St. Iago to Brownsville, and to procure an appropriation for building a custom house thereat. Also inviting the Senate within the Hall of the House of Representatives for the purpose of witnessing the inauguration of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor.

The Senate proceeded to the Representative Hall.

IN JOINT SESSION.

A committee was appointed to wait upon the retiring Governor and Governor elect, and inform them that the two Houses of the Legislature were in waiting to receive them, and having performed that duty and reported, the retiring Governor, H. R.

Runnels, and the retiring Lt. Governor F. R. Lubbock, with Sans Houston, Governor elect, and Edward Clark Lt. Governor elect, having been conducted to the Speaker's stand. Prayer by the Chaplain of the Senate;

Governor H. R. Runnels arose and delivered the following valedictory address :

Gentlemen of the Legislature

and fellow citizens :

This vast concourse has assembled to-day to witness one of those interesting periodical events which mark the history, progress and development of a free constitutional government, to witness the transfer of honor and authority from those who have been entrusted with the difficult and perplexing cares of State, to the hands of others, who, by election of the people, have been chosen to assume them. It having been my fortune to hold the position which I am now about to surrender, for the past two years, custom as well as a proper regard for the occasion has seemed to require that I should add my presence and participate in the ceremonies that are to commemorate it. In performing this task, let no one be surprised at the difficulty I find in arriving at that which shall at the same time be appropriate and expressive of my own sentiments, nor let it be supposed that this difficulty and embarrassment arises from any feeling of reluctance at the surrender of a position environed with difficulties, which it has required so enlarged a sentiment of self sacrifice and so much firmness and determination of purpose, faithfully to encounter. There are those within the sound of my voice who know that the act of to-day would have been voluntary on my part, could I have been permitted the free exercise of my own inclinations ; but had they even been different, and the office again earnestly desired, I should regard my position in defeat far more fortunate and honorable than to have succeeded at the price of principle and a surrender of the independence of thought, or, by swerving one iota from that disinterestedness of action by which he who has imposed on him high moral and constitutional duties should alone be governed. It is not my intention to weary the public patience with a recital of my long connexion with our public affairs, nor shall I stoop to a vindication of its history from the misrepresentations with which it has been assailed. The time and occasion are not propitious. The purpose of the hour is to listen to the enunciation of principle and policy from those who are to take—not those who are about to yield position. My own is already part and parcel of the history of the country, and it is for those who may seek truth for their

guidance to examine it and judge for themselves. As a Representative of the people, as the presiding officer of either branch of the Legislature, or as the Executive of the State, I have faltered in the performance of no duty, changed no opinion, abandoned no position, advanced no new theory, but consistently adhered to the same principles of State and federal policy from the beginning of my career to the present time ; striving only for the present and future welfare and safety of my State and country.

It has been well and truly said that "censure is the tax a man pays the public for being eminent," and without presuming upon this myself, if I could close my eyes to the truth, that the recent change of popular sentiment, is more to be attributed to the name and fame of the aged and eminent chieftain who sits before you, than to the course of a few licentious presses and politicians who in the heat of partizan strife have forgotten or disregarded the proprieties and amenities of life, I should then regard that change as truly suggestive of serious reflection to those who may hereafter seen to tread the thorny path of political life in Texas.

Two years ago on taking the oath of office I recommended the organization of the militia in view of the impending sectional difficulties as a measure of public defense as a necessary measure of public defense only. It was not then favorably acted on by the Legislature, but subsequent events have fully justified the recommendation. It is now clearly demonstrated by the history of the past five years that a deep unchangeable determination exists in the Northern States to assail our dearest political rights, and if possible destroy our domestic institutions. This determination has its foundation in a difference in the manners, feelings and opinions of the northern people upon the subject of negro slavery. They believe it to be a moral, social and political evil. This belief strengthened into a conviction has been incorporated with and now constitutes the soul of their religion and the mainspring of their morality. In the South, the great mass of the people entertain opinions entirely opposite in their character, which are equally irrevocable and equally amalgamated with our religion and morality. We therefore occupy the singular and anomalous position of two people differing in almost everything calculated to promote peace, happiness and fraternity, and yet in many respects living under the same government. One of these people is actuated by a spirit of aggression ; the other standing upon the ramparts of the constitution, is acting upon the defensive, and asking only to be let alone. It is unnecessary to recapitulate facts to substantiate these truths, nor that a wide spread conviction exists that we are approaching a

terrible crisis, and that we being forewarned we should be also forearmed. The history of the world affords no example of two people so divided long remaining under a common government, of their own voluntary accord. The framers of ours foreseeing a change of the opinions and sentiments of its different people, attempted by leaving this and other questions of domestic policy to the State governments as much as possible, to avoid if practicable, future cause of disruption, and by restricting the federal government to the powers delegated by the constitution, place it beyond the power of any one section to interfere with the peculiar interest and institutions of another. The binding efficacy of these restrictions from every indication is now soon to be tested, and a question to be determined is, whether Texas will remain indifferent to the consequences while those with whom she should be united by every tie of blood and interest, are animated with but one sentiment in regard to the common danger. Preparation will not hasten the coming of events, if come they must, while if it does not prevent, it may avert the consequences of the threatening storm. The time has surely arrived when the South should look to her defences.

I have now, perhaps, exceeded the limits prescribed for such an occasion ; yet I can not conclude without a word of farewell to those with whom I have been associated ; who are bound to me by the strongest ties of sympathy, and that friendship which results from common labors and common motives. I honor the magnanimity which rises above the mere considerations of party. The rancor of its hostility is more than counterbalanced by the spirit of truth and justice evinced by it, and above all, the remembrance of that charity blended with so many evidences of kindness and appreciation from fair hands, which has been so generously bestowed during my sojourn at the Capital, will be carried with me to my distant home, and deeply treasured in the well of memory until life's last pulsation shall cease.

And the Hon. F. R. Lubbock delivered the following valedictory address:

Senators, Representatives, Ladies,

and you my fellow-citizens :

Two years ago I had the pleasure of appearing before you upon this stand, then taking upon myself an obligation to discharge the duties incumbent upon me as Lieutenant Governor of this our empire State. To day I am here surrendering the trust reposed in me to another, he being the choice of the voters of the State of Texas.

I have my fellow-citizens endeavored to perform every duty incumbent upon me with fidelity and impartiality.

I am conscious of having discharged them with an eye single to the public good.

I feel that it would not be in good taste for me to make a speech upon this interesting occasion, or to suggest such matters as I might deem of great importance to the welfare of the nation; others will follow more able and experienced than myself, nevertheless, I cannot permit this opportunity to pass without congratulating my fellow-citizens upon the general prosperity of our country. We have been peculiarly favored by Divine Providence, and with the exception of our frontier troubles, I can but see that Texas is fast advancing to that prominent position which she is destined to occupy in this nation.

Prompt and efficient frontier protection is demanded by the wants of the people, and I trust the present Legislature will not adjourn without having fixed upon some efficient plan for the permanent protection of our exposed settlement.

Our system of Internal Improvements is rapidly developing the vast resources of our fertile and productive State, and by continuing our present liberal policy, much good must result in a very short space of time.

For the many evidences of kindness received at the hands of my fellow-citizens, I feel, and will ever feel grateful, and through you their Representatives, let me return to them my most cordial thanks.

Ladies, for your attention and the interest you manifest in the affairs of the State, I thank you. I am not sufficiently gifted to entertain you with compliments, tropes and figures, but believe me when I say, that no one is more ready to pay homage to the matrons and daughters of America than I, or more fully appreciates their beauty, intellect and influence.

I thank the audience for their kind attention, and I shall ever recall with pleasure my agreeable sojourn at the city of Austin.

The oath of office was then administered by Chief Justice Wheeler, to Sam Houston Governor, and Edward Clark Lieutenant Governor elect, when Sam Houston delivered the following inaugural address:

Gentlemen of the Senate

and House of Representatives :

Called from retirement by the voice of my fellow citizens, to the responsible position of the Executive of the State, I am not insensible to the delicacy and importance of the duties which devolve upon me. Having been withdrawn, for years past, to the

discharge of Federal duties, as Senator of the United States, I have not had the advantage of participating in the local affairs of the State, and have much to enquire into affecting its interests. I am aware that our local interests are varied and important, and I feel pleasure in assuring my fellow citizens that my object will be to promote and advance every interest without regard to the section, and to use my best endeavors to develop our resources. To effectuate this object, and meet the just expectations of my fellow-citizens, it will be necessary that I should enjoy and realize a hearty co-operation on the part of the people's representatives, in consummating these desirable objects. My purpose, as well as my desire, will be to sustain such measures of policy as may have been introduced promotive of the public good, and to inaugurate and advance such others as will conform to the best interests of the community.

Our insular situation imperatively demands the construction of railroads on an extended and practicable scale, commensurate to the growing importance of our settlements, as well as to the production and commerce daily increasing in our country ; at the same time a policy should be adopted and pursued which would secure the State against all imposition and ensure the fulfilment of every charter granted, and the accomplishment of every contract to which the government may be a party. The munificent grants made by the government hold out every inducement for the investment of capital and the employment of enterprise ; and it is but just to it that all fair requirements in its behalf should be exacted and conceded in return for its liberality. The improvement of our rivers so far as can be effected at a commensurate expense, so as to render them navigable, where it is practicable, seems to me to be an object demanding the fostering care of the government. Nature has provided these channels of commerce, and when improved they will supply the necessities and wants of communities, which railroads cannot accomplish for a length of time. True economy dictates that we should realize from them whatever advantages they possess.

Having treated of the physical economy of our State, it is proper and highly important that I should advert to the intellectual and moral improvement of our people. It is a truism that "to maintain liberty, intelligence is indispensable." To attain this object education is all important ; and if important, it should not be confined to classes, but disseminated throughout the whole community. How to accomplish this object, to the greatest perfection seems to be a subject yet left for solution. The Constitution evidences that its framers regarded education as a primary

object, and in that instrument ample provision was made for the endowment of Universities, and the support of common schools. The improvement and perfection of common schools suggest themselves to me as the foundation upon which to erect the best system of education, and when that foundation is firmly laid, it will be very easy to erect thereon materials for a University, if the voice of the State should, at some future day, require its establishment. To me it seems both wise and expedient that all reasonable encouragement should be extended to all educational institutions now in existence, which have been established and sustained by individual enterprise, and to promote the establishment of others in various portions of the State, thus rendering them more able to extend their usefulness, and increase their advantage to the community.

In the attainment of these various objects, it does seem to me that two important desiderata must enter into the plan of their accomplishment: Economy in relation to the finances and the public domain; and strict accountability on the part of all public functionaries should be indispensable. It is for the legislature to enact such laws as are necessary to attain this object, and secure the public treasury from imposition and fraud. So far as is dependent upon my official action, I can assure my constituents that in the appointment of official functionaries, I will entrust no man with office in whose integrity I have not entire confidence, and that he will discharge the duties of the trust confided to him with fidelity. I have confidence that my constituents, in the exercise of their discernment, will not fail to discriminate between that which was desired to be accomplished, and could not be done for want of unity and a co-operation of the different parts of government, and that which fell within the constitutional power of the Executive. As regards the public domain, the intelligence of the legislature, whose attention has been called to it, is capable of devising a system for its future disposition, and such an one as will embrace a liberal policy towards the settler. From the inception of the government of the Republic of Texas, a provision contained in the Constitution providing for sectionizing the public domain; and if such a policy had been carried out, it would have prevented a vast amount of litigation which has since that time occurred. If the legislature of the State should, at any time, adopt such a measure, it would have a tendency to dispel a thousand anxieties which the settler now entertains, because when he would then settle upon a tract of land, he would know his metes and bounds and that he should repose assuredly in the guarantees which the State afforded for the occupancy of his homestead.

In an inaugural it is not expected that subjects which would be more appropriate in a general message to the legislature, which I contemplate making should be embraced ; yet there are subjects which demand of me attention. The subject of our frontier defences is of absorbing interest. Where it is possible for the government to give protection to its citizens, it is a duty which can not be disregarded. The extent of our frontier, stretching as it does, from the Red River to El Paso, on the Rio Grande and from thence to the mouth of that river, comprises a distance but little short of two thousand miles. One-half that distance is exposed to Indian depredations, and the other bordering upon Mexico, which is in a state of anarchy. Depredations by the Indians are so frequent, that to hear of them has almost ceased to excite sympathy and attention in the interior of our State. We have a right to look to the Federal Government for that protection which as a part of the confederacy, we are entitled to. The Federal Government has stationed troops on our frontier, but they are infantry, and not calculated for that effective warfare which should be carried on against Indians. When depredations are committed by the Indians, they escape, and the Infantry can not overtake them. Were a force authorized by the Federal Government of Texian Rangers, who understand the mode of warfare, and whose animals would be capable of subsisting upon prairies, without other forage, the expense would be less to the government, and their efficiency greater in protecting our frontier than any other description of troops. The misfortune which has attended us is the fact that annuities paid by the United States to tribes that infest our borders, receive them by way of Arkansas, and not by way of Texas, which causes many of them to believe that they violate no treaty stipulation by marauding upon Texas, because the people of Texas are not identified with those of Arkansas. If annuities were paid to the Indians upon our border, it would exercise a salutary influence upon them. We must look beyond mere physical means of defence. There must be a moral influence exerted upon the Indians, and that can, and I earnestly hope will be exercised by the President of the United States, having full confidence in his desire to promote the well-being of the whole country, and that he will not withhold any means in his power to protect our bleeding frontier. The various tribes on our borders, if they were invited to meet at some place convenient on our frontier, and a treaty were made with them to give them a trifling annuity compared to the amount required to afford us but partial protection, would give peace to our borders. This policy, at the time of annexation, gave security to our fron-

tier. Of the future 'tis fair to judge by the past. In the meantime we must not neglect the demands of the emergency ; but must ourselves provide means for the immediate defence of our settlements.

Our entire boundary bordering upon the Rio Grande from the anarchy which prevails in that country, is in an exposed and excited condition. The utter disregard of all law and order in Mexico has communicated its unhappy influence to this side of the Rio Grande, and a portion of our citizens, at this time, are in a most deplorable condition, and in what it is to eventuate it is impossible to conjecture. The federal arm has been extended there, and I hope will give security and restore tranquility to our people. I will deem it my duty, if sustained by the legislature, to institute a proper inquiry into the causes which have led to the recent disorders, and adopt such measures as will prevent the recurrence of similar outbreaks. I am satisfied they have grown out of local causes, and that no premeditated insurrection was contemplated.

Whilst your representative in the Senate of the United States, being well apprized of the hopeless condition of Mexico, I introduced a measure, for the purpose of establishing a Protectorate by the government of the United States, over Mexico. The measure was received with disfavor. Aware of the state of Mexican affairs, I believed the Mexican people utterly incapable of framing a government and maintaining a nationality. This has been demonstrated since their separation from old Spain. Their history is a catalogue of revolutions, of usurpation and oppression. As a neighboring people to us, it is important for the maintenance of good neighborhood, that law and order should exist in that country. The Mexicans are a mild, pastoral and gentle people ; and it is only by demagogues and lawless chieftains, who with armed bands have robbed and plundered the people, that the disorders of that country are continued. A guarantee given to those people, for the protection of their lives and property against such, would cause them to rejoice, and they would hail with pleasure any measure which might be adopted by any foreign government that would give them peace and security. As a border State, our own security must, to a great extent, depend upon the condition of things in Mexico and the restoration of order and the establishment of good government in that country.— This is a subject for the consideration of the Federal authorities, and, no doubt, will command their gravest reflection. Should no change take place in Mexico restraining their disorders, and should they extend to this side of the Rio Grande, it will demand

of the Executive of this State. the exercise of his fullest powers, if needful, to protect our citizens and vindicate the honor of the State.

In concluding this Inaugural, I am irresistibly led to reflections which I hope will be heard with no disadvantage to any of my audience.—When Texas united her destiny with that of the government of the United States, she took upon herself duties and responsibilities, for the faithful performance of which we are pledged as a State. She entered, not into the North, nor into the South ; but into the Union. Her connection was not sectional, but national ; and however distinct or diversified her interests, may be, as compared with those of other States, she relies upon the same constitution as they, to secure her in the enjoyment of her rights.—Making that constitution the guiding star of our career as a state, let our rivalry be to approximate more closely to it, than any of our sister States. It inculcates faithfulness to the Union, let us be faithful to it. Let us, in our relationship with the general government and with the States of the confederacy, allow none to excel us in our desire to promote peace and harmony. When our rights are aggressed upon, let us be behind none in repelling the attack ; but let us be careful to distinguish between the acts of individuals and those of a people,—between the wild ravings of fanatics and that public sentiment which truly represents the masses of a State. It is in the diversity of opinion, that democracy may rest securely. The right to think adversely to us, is a guarantee of American republicanism and though this privilege may often be carried to extremes and to our detriment, yet the very institutions depends upon our maintaining it as a republican principle. When thought becomes treason, the traitor is as much the enemy of one section as the other. Its overt acts we must repel. Its expression by those inimical to our institutions, where they do not exist, need affect us nothing. The alarm at their endeavors is needless, and but strengthens them. The eternal din, which has been echoed to their song of hostility to the South, is music to their ears. Their aim is to array sectionalism upon their side, and thus to promote strife and confusion. We should meet their clamor with the contempt of a people, who fear no invasion of their rights, and instead of feeding the flame of discord, which a few in both sections have kindled, lend our endeavors toward quenching it altogether. How happy would have been the result, if the attention of Statesmen, North and South, had been as much directed toward promoting harmony between the States and cementing those fraternal bonds which alone can hold them together as a people,

as toward promoting the strife of sections, and the antagonism which are fast dividing us.—Half the care, half the thought, which has been spent in the endeavor to meet sectionalism by sectionalism, bitterness, by bitterness, and abolitionism by disunion, would have made the people to-day, a happy, united and hopeful nation.

Elected by the people, I am responsible to the people alone. Indebted to no clique or caucus for the position I occupy, I shall act alike beyond the wishes and control of such. Looking to the people, in their broad conservatism and their patriotism to sustain my endeavors, I shall pursue that course which will best conduce to the prosperity of Texas. Regarding my election as an endorsement of the sentiments enunciated by me, when I yielded my name to the people, I shall feel as the representative of the popular will, an additional incentive to make my administration accord with those principles.—Should my endeavors to turn the attention of the legislature toward those questions, whose solution bear the prosperity and happiness of the people of Texas, to the sacrifice of those national abstractions which should have no place in our councils, fail of success, I have but to look to the people to sustain me. My hopes, point me, however, to the honorable body before me, believing that in so much wisdom and intelligence there cannot fail to exist at the same time, that amount of virtue and patriotism necessary to meet any emergency.

After which Edward Clark, Lt. Governor delivered the following inaugural address :

Gentlemen of the Legislature

and fellow-citizens :

The part devolving upon me in the ceremonies of this hour, is comparatively an humble one, little more will be expected of me than to return my thanks to my fellow-citizens, as I now sincerely do, for the distinguished honor done me by my election to the office, the duties of which, I have now to assume.

The only business of the Lieut. Governor, ordinarily, is to preside over the Senate, in which capacity, his duty and authority is prescribed by the constitution, and must be exercised under the limitations imposed by that instrument, and such rules as may be enacted for the government of the body. He can neither propose or prosecute any measure in the Senate, and in one single contingency alone, has he any participation in the legislation of the country. Estimating the character of the office by the scope and extent of its powers, it might seem to be one of minor consequence, and yet, when considered with reference to the con-

tingent duties and responsibilities annexed to it, and the channel through which it must be obtained, it assumes a dignity and importance not usually ascribed to it. I should be wanting in justice to myself and respect to my fellow-citizens, if, on this occasion, I should withhold an expression of my sincere gratitude for the compliment paid me by its bestowal. As much however as I value the honor done me, I think it but candid to remark, that I attribute my success less to my own merits or any hold I have upon the confidence and partiality of the people of Texas, than to the popular association in which I was placed, and the force and importance of the issues involved in the election. It is proof of the correctness of this opinion, that I was opposed by a gentleman very generally acquainted with our citizens, of great personal popularity, having the advantage of the incumbency of the office, the duties of which he had well performed, and commended to the favor and support of the electors of the State by the nomination of a large and respectable political convention.

The Senate retired to their chamber, and on motion of Mr. Parsons, adjourned until Friday morning 10 o'clock.

FRIDAY, December 23rd, 1859.

Senate met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by the Chaplain—roll called—quorum present.

The Hon. Ed. Clark, President of the Senate, addressed the Senate as follows :

Gentlemen of the Senate:

You will, I trust, permit me a few remarks upon taking my place this morning. I had expected and intended to make the usual address at the time and place of my induction into office, but was prevented. I was wrong, perhaps in not using that occasion for the purpose.

My duties here though few and plain are responsible, and you will not receive it as the affectation of a sentiment I do not entertain to say that I assume their performance with great apprehension of my ability to discharge them well. I can scarcely expect in the beginning of my service to escape the commission of errors, and I ask that you will view my imperfections with leniency and forbearance, at least until I shall have had time to familiarize myself with your rules of proceeding. I deem it unnecessary to ask your aid and assistance in the discharge of my labors for when needed, I know it will be kindly and promptly given. Allow me to express the hope that in my place, I may